Agenda:

Date: **March 19, 2015**

Where: **Florian Hall**
       Central Maine Commerce Center
       45 Commerce Drive, Augusta

Time: **3:30 - 7:30 p.m.**

3:30 - 4:30 Technology Fair

4:30 - 4:40 Welcome

4:40 - 5:15 Student Challenge

5:15 - 5:25 Challenge Results

5:25 - 5:50 Pizza Dinner

5:50 - 7:00 Activity Breakout Sessions

7:00 - 7:30 Trivia Questions/Closing

Activities:

- **Application Design Exercise** - students will work in a team and will be asked to design an innovative use of technology using mobile applications as inspiration. Each team will design an application that will provide a functional and useful service to the citizens of the state of Maine.

- **Student Challenge** - students work in teams and are given a set of materials and a deadline for building a project.

- **A Pizza Dinner** - the students have a chance to mingle and talk to each other as well as our volunteers and business partners.

For More Information:

email: TechNight.OIT@maine.gov
www.maine.gov/oit/technight

"I encourage all students to consider a career in IT. This rewarding field offers many options and almost guarantees a well-paying job after graduation that will help Maine's economy grow." - Governor Paul R. LePage

Job Outlook:

Employment of software developers is projected to grow 22 percent from 2012 to 2022, much faster than the average for all occupations. Employment of applications developers is projected to grow 23 percent, and employment of systems developers is projected to grow 20 percent.

The main reason for the rapid growth is a large increase in the demand for computer software. Mobile technology requires new applications. The healthcare industry is greatly increasing its use of computer systems and applications. Also, concerns over threats to computer security could result in more investment in security software to protect computer networks and electronic infrastructure.

Systems developers are likely to see new opportunities because of an increase in the number of products that use software. For example, computer systems are built into consumer electronics, such as cell phones, and into other products that are becoming computerized, such as appliances. In addition, an increase in software offered over the Internet should lower costs and allow more customization for businesses, also increasing demand for software developers.

Some outsourcing to foreign countries with lower wages may occur. However, because software developers should be close to their customers, the offshoring of this occupation is expected to be limited.

(Excerpt from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2014-15 Edition)
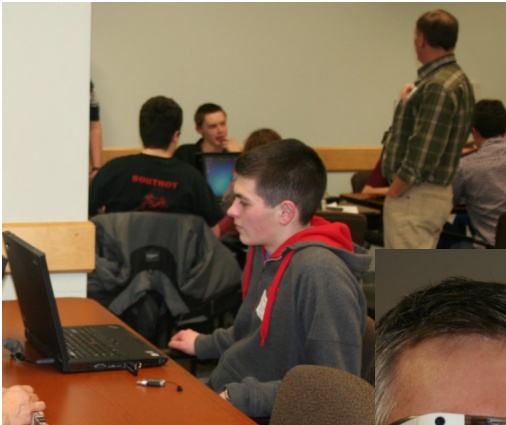
TechNight 2015

Office of Information Technology

About Tech Night:

Even with the proliferation of technology in our society, high school students may not have a full understanding of the breadth and diversity of technology jobs. The exploding world of technology requires resources with a wide range of skills, from management to analysis to problem solving to curiosity.

Our goal is to educate students to the possibilities of Information Technology as an exciting and very viable career path. In addition to talking about the technology aspects, we also stress the importance of teamwork, collaboration, creative problem solving and endless learning opportunities.

The event is fun and interactive. We keep the group fairly small (30-40 students) and involve them in activities that allow them to meet members of our agency, learn about some of the technologies that the different agencies use throughout the State, and give them a chance to experience some of those technologies directly through hands-on activities.

Student Selection:

If you would like your students to take part in TechNight, we will hold spots for them. We expect a wide variety of students to participate - from those who are already interested in technology, math, and science - to those who may not yet be aware of IT as a career. Please use the criteria below when considering students to select:

- Inquisitive - not afraid to ask questions
- Creative/innovative
- Learner - likes to jump into new things
- Natural problem solver
- Technical aptitude or interest

Please Join Us!

We anticipate that student attendance will be significantly better when they are accompanied by a teacher or another adult. Please arrange for your students to have an adult chaperone.

Before the Event:

Your Office of Information Technology contact person will be available to you for any questions you have.

Once we have the participating student names, we will send each of them a welcome email that will include specifics for the event plus a link to our TechNight website (www.maine.gov/oit/technight).

What to Expect:

The event begins at 3:30 with a welcome message from Jim Smith, CIO of the Office of Information Technology, followed by a Technology Fair that displays a variety of technologies that the State utilizes.

The Tech Fair is staffed by employees and volunteers who will demonstrate technology and talk with students about IT careers as they browse the exhibits.